

## Message Text

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SUBJECT: CONGRESSMAN WOLFF'S STATEMENT ON NARCOTICS  
IN THAILAND

REFERENCE: BANGKOK 10906

1. CONGRESSMAN WOLFF MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT IN THE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON MAY 17:

MR. WOLFF. MR. SPEAKER, ONE OF THE MAJOR BY-PRODUCTS OF  
A FACTFINDING MISSION IS THE OPPORTUNITY AFFORDED TO  
MEMBERS TO OBTAIN INFORMATION NOT AVAILABLE TO US HERE  
IN WASHINGTON. SUCH A SIGNIFICANT INSTANCE OCCURRED IN  
CONNECTION WITH A JOINT FACTFINDING MISSION UNDERTAKEN  
BY SOME MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
COMMITTEE AND THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON NARCOTICS ABUSE  
AND CONTROL. I HAVE THE HONOR AND PRIVILEGE OF BEING  
CHAIRMAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS AND CHAIRMAN OF THE SELECT  
COMMITTEE ON NARCOTICS ABUSE AND CONTROL. THE WORK OF  
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THESE COMMITTEES NECESSARILY DOVETAILS TO A LARGE EXTENT  
SINCE ISSUES INVOLVING CONTROL OF NARCOTICS, AND POLITICAL,  
MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE ARE OFTEN BUT TWO  
BRANCHES OF THE SAME TREE. RECENTLY, I LED A DELEGATION  
ON A VISIT TO THAILAND, WHICH, AS MOST OF MY COLLEAGUES  
KNOW, IS THE CENTRAL SOURCE FOR MASSIVE HEROIN TRANSHIP-  
MENTS TO EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES, MANUFACTURED FROM

OPIUM ORIGINATING IN WHAT HAS BECOME KNOWN AS THE "GOLDEN  
TRIANGLE." THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE IS THAT NORTHERNMOST POR-

TIONS OF BURMA, THAILAND AND LAOS WHICH RESTS ON THE SOUTHERN BORDERS OF THE YUNAN PROVINCE OF THE PEOPLES' REPUBLIC OF CHINA. THIS AREA GROWS BETWEEN 400 AND 500 TONS OF OPIUM ANNUALLY. THE OPIUM IS TRANSPORTED ACROSS THE BORDER INTO THAILAND, WHERE IT IS REFINED INTO HEROIN AND THEN SMUGGLED IN INCREASING AND PERILOUS AMOUNTS TO THE PRINCIPAL CAPITALS OF WESTERN EUROPE, TO THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER COUNTRIES. ONLY A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL CROP IS RETAINED FOR LOCAL CONSUMPTION, AN ACTIVITY THAT HAS BEEN INDIGENOUS TO THIS AREA OF THE WORLD FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS. THE SELECT COMMITTEE STUDIES INDICATE THERE IS CAUSE FOR REAL CONCERN WITH RESPECT TO THE APPEARANCE OF LARGER AMOUNTS OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN HEROIN IN THE UNITED STATES, AS OUR JOINT ERADICATION PROGRAMS WITH MEXICO BEGIN TO PRODUCE SUBSTANTIVE RESULTS IN ELIMINATING POPPY FIELDS AND THUS REDUCING THE AVAILABILITY OF MEXICAN HEROIN. INTELLIGENCE SOURCES IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES WHICH ARE EITHER BULK HEROIN PRODUCERS OR HEROIN TRANSSHIPMENT POINTS ARE MUCH MORE LIKELY TO HAVE CURRENT INFORMATION ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THOSE NEFARIOUS PERSONS WHO SUPPLY THE BLOOD MONEY WHICH IS THE GENESIS OF ANY NARCOTICS TRANSACTION. FROM JUST SUCH INTELLIGENCE SOURCES, I HAVE LEARNED THE NAMES AND IDENTITIES OF SOME MAJOR ETHNIC CHINESE RESIDING IN THAILAND WHO ARE PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PURCHASE, SHIPMENT AND SUPPORT OF THE LARGE VOLUME OF HEROIN THAT IS DISTRIBUTED FROM THAILAND

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INTO THE WESTERN COUNTRIES OF EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES.

BEFORE DESCRIBING THE ACTIVITIES OF ONE MAJOR GROUP OF THESE INDIVIDUALS AND NAMING THEM, WHICH I INTEND TO DO IN A FEW MOMENTS, I WOULD LIKE TO PRESENT MY COLLEAGUES WITH SOME BACKGROUND ON WHAT APPEARS TO BE ONE OF THE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN INTERNATIONAL HEROIN TRAFFICKING.

I WANT TO PAY A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO THE PRESENT SPLENDID COOPERATION OF THE THAI GOVERNMENT. PRIME MINISTER THANIN HAS MADE NARCOTICS CONTROL ONE OF THE PRIMARY PRIORITIES OF THE GOVERNMENT. THE SUBSTANTIAL AND COOPERATIVE WORK BEING DONE BY THE ROYAL THAI POLICE UNDER GENERAL SARASIN AND THE INTENSIVE SUPPORT GIVEN BY GENERAL CHAVALIT ALONG WITH THE PRIMARY ATTENTION OF GENERAL KRIANGSAK HAS BEEN OF GREAT VALUE IN THE RESULTS OBTAINED SO FAR. WHILE THERE IS MUCH WORK YET TO BE DONE WE ARE FINDING THAT THE THAI GOVERNMENT UNDERSTANDS ITS INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND IS DOING SOMETHING ABOUT THEM IN THE AREA OF DRUG CONTROL.

THE CHINESE TRIAD SOCIETIES WHICH BEGAN THEIR EXISTENCE CENTURIES AGO AS SELF-HELP ORGANIZATIONS, HAVE LARGELY BECOME CRIMINAL SYNDICATES IN RECENT YEARS. BECAUSE OF

LOOSE BANKING REGULATIONS AND PRACTICES IN THE FAR EAST AND THE CLOSE CONNECTION THESE ETHNIC CHINESE HAVE WITH RELATIVES AND FRIENDS SCATTERED ALL OVER THE GLOBE, THEY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ASSUME A MAJOR ROLE IN THE DISTRIBUTION, RECEIPT, AND DISSEMINATION OF HEROIN. THEY WORK IN MYSTERIOUS WAYS, THEIR BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS CLOTHED IN CODED LANGUAGE. MUCH BUSINESS IS TRANSACTED BY WORD OF MOUTH AND THE TRUST THAT IS EXTENDED BY ONE TRIAD MEMBER TO A BLOOD BROTHER IS INVIOLE. THEY HAVE THEIR OWN CODE OF SILENCE NOT UNFAMILIAR TO LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AROUND THE WORLD WHO ONCE DEALT WITH ORGANIZED GANGS OF CRIMINALS THAT TRANSPORTED TURKISH HEROIN TO THE UNITED UNCLASSIFIED

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STATES.

THE SECRET SOCIETIES KNOWN AS THE TRIAD WERE FORMED IN MAINLAND CHINA DURING THE 18TH CENTURY. THEIR ORIGINAL PURPOSE WAS SELF-PROTECTION AND OPPOSITION TO THE VARIOUS CHINESE DYNASTIES. THE NAMES OF THE VARIOUS SECRET SOCIETIES ARE TAKEN FROM THE AREAS IN CHINA FOR WHICH THE ORIGINAL MEMBERS EMIGRATED. THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE SECRET SOCIETIES ARE IN HONG KONG. AS MEMBERS OF THE SECRET SOCIETIES SCATTERED THROUGHOUT SOUTHEAST ASIA AND EUROPE, SMALLER BRANCHES WERE FORMED. RIGHT UP THROUGH THE 1960'S THE SECRET SOCIETIES WERE IMPORTING NO. 3 HEROIN AND OPIUM FOR USE IN THE COUNTRIES WHERE THEY WERE LOCATED. IN THE EARLY 1970'S THE SECRET SOCIETIES BEGAN TO IMPORT NO. 4 HEROIN ALONG WITH NO. 3 HEROIN WHICH IS USED FOR SMOKING PURPOSES. THESE GROUPS, LOCATED IN THE VARIOUS EUROPEAN COUNTRIES ARE CONNECTED WITH THE BASE OPERATION AND FAMILIES OF HONG KONG. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THEY ARE LARGELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE UPSURGE IN HEROIN TRAFFICKING COMING FROM SOUTHEAST ASIA TO WESTERN EUROPE. THE INCREASE IN LEVEL OF HEROIN SMUGGLING IS REFLECTED IN THE INCREASE OF HEROIN SEIZURES IN WESTERN EUROPE FROM A LEVEL OF 15 TO 20 KILOGRAMS IN THE 1960'S TO OVER 600 KILOGRAMS LAST YEAR. THE PRIMARY SECRET SOCIETY IN WESTERN EUROPE AS FAR AS HEROIN TRAFFICKING IS CONCERNED WAS THE 14K GROUP WHICH HAS RECENTLY BEEN PUSHED OUT BY A RIVAL BASED IN MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE. IN MOST COUNTRIES, INCLUDING HONG KONG, IT IS ILLEGAL TO BELONG TO A SECRET SOCIETY. HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF THE ETHNIC TIES WHICH ALL MEMBERS OF SECRET SOCIETIES HAVE, IT IS VERY HARD TO INFILTRATE THESE ORGANIZATIONS. THE TRIADS USE THE TRAFFICKING IN NARCOTICS TO SUPPORT THEIR OTHER LEGITIMATE AND ILLEGITIMATE ACTIVITIES.

MANY OF THESE INDIVIDUALS RESIDE IN BANGKOK, LIVING IN BARONIAL SPLENDOR, ADOPTING THAI NAMES, AND REPRESENT UNCLASSIFIED

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THE PRIMARY REASON WHY SOUTHEAST ASIAN HEROIN HAS BECOME AN OVERWHELMING THREAT TO THE NATIONAL SECURITY OF OUR COUNTRY. FOR EXAMPLE, CHANG KAI-CHENG -- ALSO KNOWN AS CHANG PU-CHING, ALSO KNOWN AS HU CHIN-TE, ALSO KNOWN AS THAWEE SAKULTHANAPANISH -- LEFT YUNAN PROVINCE IN CHINA IN 1949 AND TOOK REFUGE IN BURMA TO ESCAPE THE COMMUNIST TAKEOVER. HE THEN MARRIED LIU-CHAO-TING AND HAS EIGHT CHILDREN, SOME OF WHOM STUDY IN SINGAPORE, TAIWAN, AND THE UNITED STATES. HE MOVED TO CHIANG MAI, THAILAND, IN 1965 AND BEGAN HIS NARCOTICS OPERATION. WITHIN 5 YEARS, HE HAD BECOME AND REMAINS A MOST PROMINENT FIGURE IN THE THAI NARCOTICS COMMUNITY. MR. CHANG HAS RESIDENCES IN BANGKOK, CHIANG MAI, AND MAE SAI, THAILAND. HE IS THE HEAD OF THE LARGEST HEROIN DISTRIBUTION RING IN THAT COUNTRY. HIS LIST OF ASSOCIATES IN A "WHO'S WHO" OF CHINESE ETHNICS IN THE BANGKOK NARCOTICS MARKET. HE HAS INVESTMENTS AND IS THE CO-OWNER OF MANY BUSINESSES AMONG THEM THE BROADWAY HOTEL, BANGKOK; BAI CHA HOM TEA CO., BANGKOK; TUNG HSING-CHAN HARDWARE AND TRUCKING CO., CHIANG RAI, THAILAND; AND THE REFINED TEA MANUFACTURING CO., OF BANGKOK. MR. CHANG'S OPERATIONS IN NORTHERN THAILAND ARE CONDUCTED BY CONFEDERATES WHO PURCHASE MOST OF HIS NARCOTICS FROM THE HILL TRIBES WITH FINANCIAL SUPPORT PROVIDED BY MR. CHANG. ORIGINALLY, MR. CHANG'S NARCOTICS BUSINESS WAS LOCATED ON THE NORTHERN FRONTIER OF THAILAND AND NORTHERN BURMA WHERE HE PRODUCED "999" BRAND OF MORPHINE. AFTER MOVING TO CHIANG MAI BECAUSE OF PRESSURE FROM THE BURMESE GOVERNMENT, HE WENT TO LAOS AND SET UP A GOLD MINING COMPANY WHICH WAS A FRONT FOR A HEROIN FACTORY AT GOLD DELTA, LAOS. IN 1976, THE HEROIN REFINERY WAS MOVED TO TACHILEK, BURMA, AT THE EDGE OF THE NORTHERN BORDER OF THAILAND, UNDER PROTECTION FROM CERTAIN OF THE OPIUM WARLORDS IN THAT AREA. MR. CHANG'S CONFEDERATE, SHA MING, IS THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE REFINERY AND MR. CHANG REMAINS IN BANGKOK DISTRIBUTING HIS POISON TO REGULAR CUSTOMERS. MR. CHANG HAS EXCELLENT UNCLASSIFIED

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NARCOTICS CONNECTIONS IN HOLLAND, SINGAPORE, MALAYSIA, HONG KONG, AND THE UNITED STATES. HIS "BAG MAN" IS MR. CHANG CHEN SCHEN, WHO ALSO LIVES IN BANGKOK AND WHO HAS CONTACTS WITH MANY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. MR. CHANG HAS THAI CITIZENSHIP, RESIDES AT 132-5 KLONG PAPA SAMSEN, BANGKOK; HE ALSO OWNS A HOUSE AT 105 MARKET STREET, MAE SAI, THAILAND. AS OF THIS DATE, MR. CHANG ROAMS ABOUT THE GLOBE FREQUENTLY AND CAN BE SAID TO BE ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT FIGURES IN THE SPREADING OF ASIAN POISON TO THE YOUTH OF THE WORLD.

THERE ARE MORE SUCH PERSONS. MR. CHANG CHEN-CH'ENG --

ALSO KNOWN AS A'PUNG, ALSO KNOWN AS SUTHEP BENJAPKEE -- WAS BORN IN THAILAND WITH AN ANCESTRAL HOME IN TEACHOW, CHINA. HE LIVES IN BANGKOK IN A BEAUTIFUL MODERN HOME WHICH HAS AN UNDERGROUND ROOM USED FOR GAMBLING AND SMOKING OPIUM. HE IS CLOSE TO MR. CHANG, WHO I HAVE ALREADY DESCRIBED, AND THE VARIOUS OTHER ETHNIC CHINESE WHO LIVE IN BANGKOK WHO ARE IN THE NARCOTICS BUSINESS. HE OWNS THE VICTORY HOTEL IN BANGKOK AND A JEWELRY STORE AT THE REAR OF THE HOTEL CALLED BEAUTY THAI SILK. ABOUT 10 YEARS AGO, HE WENT TO THE THAI-LAOTIAN BORDER AND STAYED THERE FOR SOME TIME BEFORE RETURNING TO BANGKOK. HE BEGAN TO MAKE CONSIDERABLE AMOUNTS OF MONEY IN 1968 WHEN THAILAND'S ARMED FORCES PARTICIPATED IN THE VIETNAM WAR. THIS EFFORT GAVE HIM THE OPPORTUNITY TO SMUGGLE LARGE QUANTITIES OF HEROIN TO SAIGON FOR SALE TO AMERICAN SOLDIERS, IN COLLUSION WITH SOME THAI ARMY OFFICERS. INTELLIGENCE SOURCES REVEAL THAT BETWEEN 1970 AND 1971 A'PUNG SMUGGLED 100 KILOGRAMS OF NO. 4 HEROIN AND SEVERAL TONS OF PROCESSED OPIUM TO SAIGON WHERE FELLOW TRIAD MEMBER CHANG MING DISTRIBUTED THE NARCOTICS. MR. A'PUNG HAS A KNACK FOR MAKING FRIENDS IN THAI GOVERNMENT CIRCLES. HE HAS CLOSE CONNECTIONS WITH THE THAI ARMY AND THE THAI POLICE AS WELL AS OFFICIALS OF THE FORMER GOVERNMENT. MR. A'PUNG ALSO OWNS TWO EXPORT-IMPORT FIRMS, THAI GEM UNCLASSIFIED

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AND LIN HO TRADING CO'S. IN BANGKOK. HE HAS RECENTLY PURCHASED A SUMPTUOUS VILLA IN THE AREA OF SUTHISAN, THAILAND, WHERE MR. CHANG AND HIS ASSOCIATES OFTEN VISIT TO CONDUCT BUSINESS AND TO GAMBLE.

ANOTHER SIGNIFICANT PIECE OF INTELLIGENCE RELATES TO A MR. SHA MING -- ALIAS OLD SUA -- A YUNNANESE CHINESE WHO RESIDES IN THAILAND. MR. SHA MOVED TO THAILAND FROM BURMA IN 1961 AND NOW OCCUPIES THE FIRST IMPORTANT POSITION OF PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT TO MR. CHANG. IN 1966, WHEN MR. CHANG ESTABLISHED A HEROIN FACTORY IN THE JUNGLE AREA OF HUI HSE, LAOS, MR. SHA WAS MADE SUPERINTENDENT OF THIS FACTORY. THE CHIEF PHARMACIST WAS A WELL-KNOWN HEROIN REFINER NAMED HSIAO WANG. AT A LATER TIME THIS REFINERY WAS MOVED TO TACHILEK, BURMA, UNDER THE PROTECTION OF TWO CHINESE OPIUM WARLORD LEADERS NAMED YANG SHIASH LEE AND LO HSIN HAN. MR. SHA BUILT A LARGE LABORATORY AT THIS SITE WHERE HE PURCHASED RAW OPIUM WHILE MR. CHANG SUPERVISED SALES IN BANGKOK. IN 1971, AS THE RESULT OF THE LOSS OF PROTECTION OF THE LOCAL ARMIES AND A CHANGE IN BURMESE GOVERNMENT POLICIES, MR. SHA'S HEROIN REFINERY LOST ITS ARMED PROTECTION AND THE RESULT WAS THE SCATTERING OF THE REFINERY EQUIPMENT TO SEVERAL

MOBILE FACTORIES IN THE MOUNTAINOUS GOLDEN TRIANGLE AREA. AT THE PRESENT TIME, MR. SHA IS ACTIVELY

OPERATING A COMPARATIVELY LARGE HEROIN REFINERY NEAR  
CHIANG RAI, THAILAND.

ANOTHER ASSOCIATE OF MR. CHANG KAI-CHING IS MA HSEUH-FU,  
ALSO A YUNNANESE CHINESE WHO CAME TO BURMA FROM CHINA  
IN 1949 AND JOINED MR. CHANG AS A PARTNER IN THE OPIUM  
BUSINESS.

MR. MA IS AN EXTREMELY WEALTHY MAN, HAVING MADE FOR-  
TUNES IN THE OPIUM SMUGGLING OPERATION THAT HE CONDUCTED  
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FROM 1961 TO THE PRESENT TIME IN HONG LO, BURMA. IN  
1964, MR. MA AND HIS FAMILY MOVED TO BANGKOK. HE AND  
MR. CHANG, HIS PARTNER AND FELLOW TRIAD MEMBER, INVESTED  
IN THE CHA MON TEA CO. IN BANGKOK AND USED THE COMPANY  
AS A FRONT FOR THE TRANSSHIPMENT OF LARGE QUANTITIES OF  
HEROIN INTO INTERNATIONAL MARKETS. HE OWNS INTERESTS IN  
THE JUNE HOTEL AND THE MING TEA CO., BOTH OF BANGKOK,  
AND IS CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH GENERAL LI, A NOTORIOUS  
OPIUM EXPORTER AND MR. CHANG.

MR. WA YAO-TUNG, ANOTHER YUNNANESE CHINESE, WHO CAME TO  
THAILAND WHEN HE WAS VERY YOUNG, LIVES IN WESTERN-STYLE  
RANCH HOUSE WITH A LARGE GARDEN ADJACENT TO IT. HE ALSO  
OWNS A HOUSE IN CHIANG MAI, THAILAND. BETWEEN 1969 AND  
1971 HE WORKED FOR A NUMBER OF REFINERY OPERATORS,  
INCLUDING THE GENTLEMEN I HAVE ALREADY NAMED. HE IS  
MAINLY RESPONSIBLE FOR SUPPLYING THE PRECURSORS  
NECESSARY FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF HEROIN. HE IS A MAJOR  
DISTRIBUTOR OF NARCOTICS IN BANGKO AND HAS RECENTLY  
EARNED THE EQUIVALENT OF \$1 MILLION WITH PART OF WHICH  
HE PURCHASED TWO HOUSES, ONE ON SUKUAVAIT ROAD IN  
BANGKOK. MR. WA MOVES AROUND FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE IN  
ORDER TO CONFUSE LAW ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS AND IS KNOWN TO  
BE WELL CONNECTED IN GOVERNMENT CIRCLES. I WISH ALSO TO  
CALL ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING THREE NARCOTICS FINAN-  
CIERS AND POWER BROKERS: MR. NA TSAI-K'UEI, A YUAN-  
NANESE CHINESE, MR. MA YAO-HUA WHO IS ALSO YUANNANESE  
AND MR. CHU HSUEH-PIN. THESE THREE GENTLEMEN RESIDE IN  
THAILAND AND ARE PRINCIPAL DISTRIBUTORS OF NO. 3 HEROIN  
WITH CONNECTIONS IN THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE AS SOLID AS  
THOSE THEY HAVE IN THE UNITED STATES. THEY OWN HOUSES,  
HOTELS, EXPORT-IMPORT COMPANIES, AND OTHER FRONTS FOR  
THEIR NEFARIOUS BUSINESSES.

IT MUST BE REALIZED THAT THESE INDIVIDUALS SUPPLY THE  
VAST AMOUNTS OF MONEY NECESSARY TO GUARANTEE A CONTINUOUS  
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LARGE FLOW OF OPIUM. THEY FINANCE THE REFINERIES WHICH

PRODUCE NO. 3 AND NO. 4 HEROIN. THEY PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR THE SMUGGLING OPERATIONS AFTER THE MERCHANDISE ARRIVES IN BANGKOK, AND ALSO THE FRONT MONEY FOR THE COSTS OF DISTRIBUTION. FORTUNES ARE COLLECTED IN EXCHANGE FOR A NOD, A HANDSHAKE OR AN UNDERSTOOD PASS-WORD FROM THEIR TRIAD BRETHREN ALL OVER THE WORLD. THEIR WEALTH IS REMINISCENT OF THE LEGENDARY RULERS OF ANCIENT DAYS.

MR. SPEAKER, TO MY KNOWLEDGE, THIS BURGEONING AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS SITUATION HAS NEVER BEEN MADE PUBLIC BEFORE. I AM DOING SO BECAUSE IT IS NECESSARY FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO IDENTIFY THEIR ENEMIES. TOGETHER WITH THE CORRUPT OFFICIALS WITHOUT WHOSE CONNIVANCE THIS TRAFFIC WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE, THEY ARE PRINCELY PURVEYORS OF UNIVERSAL MISERY.

I TRUST THAT ALL APPROPRIATE FEDERAL AGENCIES WILL TAKE NOTE OF WHAT HAS BEEN SAID HERE TODAY AND WILL LEND MORE SUPPORT TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF EVERY CIVILIZED NATION IN THE WORLD THAT IS DEDICATED TO COMBATING THE SPREAD OF HEROIN. CHRISTOPHER

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